

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

Edited and published by B. Homans, at \$5 a year, payable in advance.

VOL. II.—No. 2.]

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1836.

[WHOLE No. 54.]

SIEGE OF NEW ORLEANS.

[CONTINUED.]

The geographical features of Louisiana are peculiar and interesting, and if the nature of the country present some uncommon difficulties to an invading foe, it offers others, which are not less so to defensive operations. The region, traversed by the lower Mississippi, has been gained from the ocean by the deposits borne down by the current of that river. During its annual inundations, its surface, when at the greatest elevation, is considerably higher than its natural banks; and these, in their turn, are higher than the land in the rear. Contrary, therefore, to the usual fluvial formations, there is an inclined plane, highest at the river, and extending to the swamps, which serve as a reservoir for the water that escapes in the period of the inundation. Human labour and ingenuity have counteracted the operations of nature, and a dike or levee has been formed along the river for a great distance, which protects the land between the stream and the swamp from the periodical freshets, occasioned by the falling of the rain, and by the dissolution of the snow in the immense trans-Alleghany valley.

This dike or levee, frail as it apparently is in its structure, has yet been found sufficient to guard the habitations and the works of man from the danger which hangs over them. It is indeed liable to occasional breaches; but these are generally repaired without delay, or if not, the water passes in a considerable stream through the inclined plane to the swamp, making indeed a channel for itself, but extending its ravages no further.

From this very general view of the country it may well be supposed that there are various routes by which it may be approached and entered from the ocean. Placing ourselves at New Orleans, the key of this whole region, we shall take a *coup d'œil* of these avenues of communication, without a sketch of which, neither the plans of operation, nor the merits of the contending parties, can be understood or appreciated.

To the east of New Orleans are three inlets of the ocean, called Lakes Borgne, Pontchartrain, and Maurepas. Lake Maurepas communicates with Lake Pontchartrain by the pass of Manchac, and Lake Pontchartrain with Lake Borgne by the two passes or channels of the Rigolets and Chef Menteur. Lake Borgne itself is an indentation of the Gulf of Mexico. An enemy, approaching in this quarter, and having the command of Lake Borgne, sees before him the whole interior of the country, either covered by the waters of these lakes, or by swamps and marshes overgrown with high reeds and thick cypress timber, and intersected in every direction by channels of communication called *Jayous*. These channels are comparatively narrow, but deep towards the lakes, gradually shoaling in depth as they multiply in number, and extend their numerous ramifications towards the Mississippi. This marshy waste is impenetrable to human footsteps, except upon the banks of some of the largest bayous, or in a season of extreme drought.

One of the most considerable of these lagoons, which is supplied by Lake Borgne, is the Bayou Bienvenue, entering the lake on its western side, and extending its branches through this world of marsh in various directions towards the Mississippi, below the City of New Orleans. A guard was stationed at the outlet of this channel, and its observation and defence were intrusted to General Villere, who commanded a division of the Louisiana militia, and who from his long residence below the city, was well acquainted with the topography of this whole region. South of the Bayou Bienvenue is another similar channel, called Bayou Dupre, opening a communication from the south-western part of Lake Borgne, and through the sunken lands, by many branches, to the Mississippi. These passes, however, were but little known, nor was it believed that they afforded much facility for the approach of an invading army. They occupied the region below that divided by the Bayou Bienvenue.

There are two passes between Lake Borgne and Lake Pontchartrain. That of Chef Menteur and that of the Rigolets. The former was defended by a battery and redoubt. This position was highly important, for it was situated at the junction of the Bayou Sauvage with the Chef Menteur pass, and thus commanded both avenues of communication.

The Chef Menteur pass is probably eighteen or twenty miles from the City of New Orleans, and the Bayou Sauvage extends through the intermediate country, almost equi-distant between Lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain, and approaches the suburbs of the city. Along its bank is the Gentilly road, which was passable for troops and their artillery. In addition to the redoubt and battery at the junction of this road and bayou with the Chef Menteur pass, these communications were defended by batteries upon the route, and were intrusted to the Louisiana militia under the command of Governor Claiborne.

The Rigolets, the other channel between these lakes, was defended by the fort of Petite Coquilles. A flotilla, forcing either of these passes, and entering Lake Pontchartrain, could steer directly to the southern shore of the lake, which is within three miles of the city. The Bayou St. John here offers a direct and easy communication across to the Mississippi, and to the upper part of the City of New Orleans. This quarter was defended by Fort St. John at the outlet of the Bayou. West of Lake Pontchartrain is Lake Maurepas, and between them is the pass Manchac. From Lake Maurepas, by the Amite and Iberville, is another communication with the Mississippi, intersecting the river about seventy miles above New Orleans, and thus enabling an enemy to make his attack from that quarter.

The river itself furnished another, and the most obvious mode of approach; but it was secured by Fort St. Philip. West of the Mississippi, Barataria bay and Petite lake formed another line upon which an enemy might operate, and reach the bank of the river immediately opposite the city. A part of the 44th regiment was stationed there to afford the necessary security.

It will thus be seen, that from the peculiar nature of the country there were several approaches to the City of New Orleans, by which an invading army might advance, and that great vigilance on the part of its defenders, as well as the occupation of proper positions along these lines, could alone guard against surprise. A dispersion of the troops was the necessary consequence of this state of things, as well as general incertitude respecting the operations.

The government of the United States, during the autumn of 1814, became satisfied that a hostile expedition for the invasion and conquest of Louisiana was in progress; and the indications of such a design soon became too distinct to be misunderstood. The troops which had been employed in the attacks upon Washington and Baltimore, and in those marauding expeditions into the country upon the Chesapeake bay, which, while they carried terror and distress to the exposed inhabitants, left unattained all the objects of just and honourable warfare, were withdrawn to the West Indies, to await the arrival of a detachment ordered from England to join them in this service. This junction took place at Jamaica, on the 24th of November, 1814, and the next day the fleet sailed, and gained the American coast on the 9th of December.

From this time, and until the final catastrophe and retreat of the British army, several reinforcements were received by them, and it would be satisfactory to ascertain the precise strength of both parties in the various engagements which decided the fate of the country. The authenticated returns, which are appended to this narrative, furnish all the information necessary on the part of the American troops, except upon the 23d of December, the report of which day we have not been able to procure, and have therefore subjoined the statement of Eaton, founded on information furnished to him by the Adjutant General. But our inquiries have not been so satisfactory in relation to the British army. Eaton and La Tour estimate their whole force at about fourteen thousand men, and they give the elements on which the calculation is made. We have seen no accounts, resting on British official authority, which contain an approximation towards the military or naval strength of this expedition. General Jackson's force at the lines upon the left bank of the Mississippi, on the morning of the 8th of January, including all the rank and file, or in other words, the corporals and privates, who are considered as combatants, was 4,264, as the authentic returns show.

During the summer and a part of the autumn of 1814, General Jackson had been engaged in the necessary measures for the defence of the military district intrusted to

him, which included the south-western part of the United States. Florida, at that time an appendage of the Spanish crown, was so situated with relation to his command, as to interrupt his communications, and to embarrass his operations. It had proved itself a place of refuge, where his enemies, both white and red, had sought safety, and whence they had issued to overcome and devastate the country.

The neutral duties of the Spanish local authorities were openly neglected. They had certainly not the inclination, perhaps not the power, to cause the British and their allies to respect their territory. The consequences already felt, and those anticipated, led General Jackson to the adoption of one of those decisive measures which have characterized his course through life. He determined upon his own responsibility, to enter Florida, and in expelling the British, to teach the local government a salutary lesson. This design he executed with equal promptitude and success. Pensacola was taken; the hostile expedition driven from the province, and the fortifications, upon which they had relied for defence, demolished.

This proceeding, equally wise and just in its conception and vigorous in its execution, was essential to the defence of the region committed to General Jackson. Had this concentration of British troops and Indians been permitted to continue with impunity, his whole left flank would have been uncovered and exposed, Mobile must have fallen, and St. George's banner, associated with the Indian *Kukewium*,* waved over all the prostrate settlements in that exposed region. We have no taste for puling sentimentality, nor have we a wish to revive the embittered feelings of that period. *Let bygones be bygones.* There are many, very many noble traits of character in the British nation. And we sincerely believe, that had their government and people been aware of the dreadful nature of the warfare conducted by the North American Indians, they would have rejected with horror any proposition for their employment. The lessons of history, however, are always salutary, and may be read for improvement when the period of excitement has passed away. It cannot be doubted, but that if the usual routine of diplomatic remonstrance had been resorted to, and the action of the Spanish authorities, colonial or imperial, awaited, an intimate communication would have been established between the British troops and all the disaffected southern Indians, and their mutual co-operation secured. It has been our fortune to witness the untold horrors of such a warfare. Well may it be said, that eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive the atrocities of these incursions. Before them, is all that constitutes human happiness. Behind them a ruined country and a murdered people; or a captivity, terminated by all the sufferings which savage cruelty can inflict, or prolonged for the purposes of savage caprice or cupidity.

General Jackson, having secured his left flank by the expulsion of the British, and prevented any co-operation between them and the Indians, and having concluded a series of decisive operations, which could not but produce a powerful moral effect on the southern tribes, prepared to assume the immediate personal command of the troops collected in the vicinity of New Orleans.

The public indications, which gave warning of the danger to others, were not unheeded by him, and there were some, which reached him confidentially, confirming the belief, that a serious attempt against that part of the country was meditated by the British Cabinet. These he had communicated to the government, and he now felt that the time was come when prompt measures must be adopted to meet the impending danger. After making all the necessary arrangements in his power for the defence of Mobile, and for the security of that part of the country, he commenced his journey to New Orleans, and reached that city on the 1st of December, 1814.

At this period Louisiana was as defenceless as it was exposed. Both in the *personnel* and *materiel*, there was an appalling deficiency of the means necessary for the ultimate safety of the country. He had under his command the skeletons of two regiments of new raised regular troops, but the rest of his force was militia, drawn from the invaded district, from Mississippi, Tennessee, and

Kentucky. Of arms and of ordnance stores generally, the supply was wholly inadequate to the exigency. A quantity had been some time before demanded and ordered, but from some administrative error, these were yet slowly descending the Ohio, in the lowest stage of its water, and in fact did not reach their place of destination till the struggle was over. Had it not been for the provident foresight of General Carroll, in transshipping into his boats a part of these equipments which he accidentally passed, the whole Kentucky reinforcement would have been weaponless in the day of trial, and as it was, not less than from twelve to fifteen hundred of them were mere spectators of the combat, not being able to mingle in it for the want of arms. As another example of the defective state of the military supplies, it may be remarked, that General Jackson, in a report to the Secretary of War, of February 18th, 1815, informs that functionary, that when the "enemy landed he had not a flint except what was procured from the Baratarians."

The works upon the Mississippi below the city, and which were intended to secure the line of communication by the river, were in an unfinished or dilapidated condition, and as a general sketch of the state of the country, so far as regards its permanent military defences, it may be remarked, that there was not a respectable fortification in the state; that the bayous were unobstructed; important points left without the defence of batteries; and the City of New Orleans itself, the depot of the trade of the whole western country, the seat of the State government, and the immediate object of the British invasion, was destitute of the slightest entrenchments. But there was a state of moral feeling, still more unfavourable to efficient action than the difficulties arising from the want of the necessary preparations. The tone of public sentiment was depressed. There was an evident want of some central authority; some master spirit, confident in its own purposes, and able to inspire confidence in others. Appearances were indeed sufficiently alarming to excite the apprehensions of the least timid. The military councils were divided respecting the best plan of defence, and indecision and inactivity were the necessary results. The very uncertainty in the time and place of attack, and in the force of the enemy, combined to increase the alarm.

General Jackson's efforts were directed to the acquisition of a personal knowledge of the topography of the country, and to the adoption of the necessary measures for obstructing the advance of the enemy. He laboured with equal zeal and assiduity to gain the confidence of the community. In this he was successful. Order was restored. Discipline established. The fort upon the Mississippi was inspected and repaired. Those upon the passes of the lakes were strengthened. The bayous were obstructed by fallen timber. Batteries were erected and furnished, and activity pervaded every department of the public service.

In the meantime the British expedition had reached Cat Island, upon the coast of the Gulf, and a powerful detachment from the fleet had captured the American flotilla of gun boats, destined for the defence of the lake. Lieutenant Jones and his command fought with great gallantry, but were overpowered by numbers. This result placed it in the power of the British general to convey his troops, unopposed and unobserved, to any point of debarkation he might select. The sea is here so shallow, that large vessels cannot be employed in the service of transportation, and the boats of the fleet and the captured gun boats furnished the only means of conveyance within the power of the enemy. The distance from the fleet to the mouth of Bayou Bienvenue, is about sixty miles, and a small swampy island, at an intermediate distance, was selected as the place of concentration for the troops. Here they were conveyed, and this point of departure they left on the 22d of December, and gained the mouth of the Bayou Bienvenue on the morning of the 23d. A small guard had been stationed for the security of this communication, but they were surprised, and the pass was thus opened to the British. They availed themselves of their good fortune, and reached the Mississippi about noon of the same day without opposition, and it is believed, without observation.

Great credit is due to the commander of the British army for this well concerted plan of operations, and to his troops for their exemplary conduct in the circumstances in which they were placed. They were crowded into open boats, and exposed to all the dangers and inconveniences of a voyage at an inclement season, and upon a dangerous and unknown coast; and it is said that some of them did not leave their boats for six days. Had the subsequent operations of the campaign been conducted with as much

**Kukewium*.—This is understood to be the Chippewa name of the Indian standard, which is composed of feathers attached to a spear, and which when displayed, indicates that the fight is to be for life or death.

spirit and judgment, Louisiana might have fallen, notwithstanding all the efforts of her defenders.

General Jackson received information of the approach of the enemy between one and two o'clock in the afternoon of the 23d. His troops were stationed at the various positions we have already enumerated, as the uncertainty, attending the movements of the enemy, required that all the avenues of communication should be secured. Even at this moment, when his approach was announced, it was still the duty of the commanding general to survey the whole ground, and not by hastily withdrawing his troops render defenceless those positions, which would open to his antagonist an unmolested entrance into the city. It was possible that this movement was but a feint, designed to attract the attention of the Americans, and that the real effort was to be made in some other quarter. Of the small force, therefore, assembled in the vicinity of this exposed city, it was impossible, with any just regard to military principles, to concentrate the whole upon a particular point, till the designs of the enemy were more fully unfolded.

This successful and well concerted movement of the British, brought the affairs of this interesting region to a crisis. There was no obstruction to the advance of the enemy. Neither troops nor defences to oppose his march to the city, and a level road upon the bank of the river invited his approach. But he did not avail himself of the opportunity within his reach. He left ungathered the fruits of his own enterprise. The British troops halted at the river, spread themselves over the plain, and at once yielded to all those impulses which belong to the life of a soldier, and which led him to enjoy the present, regardless of the future. It is the recklessness of habit—the result of those alternations of safety and danger, that are the inseparable companions of active military operations, and the good* the Gods provide," from the feast of the Macedonian conqueror to the vigil of Waterloo,—where

— "was a sound of revelry by night
And Belgium's capital had gathered then
Her beauty and her chivalry."

But where too—

"there was mounting in hot haste,"

And then—

— "rider and horse—friend, foe—
"in one rude burial blent."

By a rapid march the invaders would have reached New Orleans before any other notice of their arrival, and the city might have fallen by a *coup de main*. There were not wanting enterprising officers in the British camp, who estimated at their full value the advantages of a prompt and decisive movement. But more cautious counsels prevailed, and the opportunity thus offered, passed away, no more to return. The British commander found, as all indecisive generals will find, the truth of the remark of Phædrus, to nothing more applicable than to unnecessary military delays:

"Elapsus sciel
Non ipse posset Jupiter reprehendere
Occasionem rerum significat brevem."

Happily for himself and his country, the measures adopted by General Jackson, at this juncture, were dictated by another spirit. He might have concentrated his forces in some position below the town with as much promptness as possible, and, strengthened by such defences as the operations of the enemy might permit him to make, awaited his approach. Had he done so, he would have lost the country. All the moral effect of a vigorous attack, both in elevating the feelings of his own troops and in depressing those of his opponents, would have been lost. The enemy, not having learnt to respect the vigour of the American General nor the efficiency of his troops, would have advanced with full confidence, and without allowing time for any of those preparations which soon began to foreshadow, and finally produced the unexampled *denouement*.

When General Jackson received intelligence that the British had reached the Mississippi, he instantly determined upon his plan of operations, and issued his orders for the movement of the troops. The Inspector General, Colonel Hayne, was directed to proceed down the river with such force as could be immediately collected, and if he met the enemy advancing, to attack them and

retard their march as much as possible. If, however, he found them encamped at the position where the latest information left them, he was directed to take post in the Orange grove on Larond's plantation, and there await further orders: and he was assured, that he should be supported without delay by the commanding general, and such strength as he could bring into the field.

Hayne moved out within an hour after receiving these decisive orders, and took with him a corps of about three hundred and fifty men, most of whom were mounted.

General Jackson remained in the city to facilitate, by his presence and directions, the assemblage and movement of his other corps. The 44th Regiment was on the opposite side of the river. It was brought over with the utmost despatch. General Coffee, with his command, was four miles above New Orleans. No time was lost in communicating to him, and to the corps of Planche and Daquin, the necessary orders, and requiring their immediate presence. General Carroll and Governor Claiborne, with the militia force under their orders, were stationed upon the Gentilly road in the rear of the city, as it was not yet known where the actual point of approach and attack would be.

The necessary dispositions having been made, and all the disposable force in motion, General Jackson left the city about sunset. The whole force which marched out of New Orleans on this occasion, was as follows, agreeably to the return furnished to Eaton by the Adjutant General, Colonel Butler.

Coffee's brigade and Beal's Company,	648
The 7th and 44th Regiments,	763
Marines and artillery,	82
Planche's and Daquin's battalions,	488
Mississippi Dragoons under Hinds,	186
	<hr/> 2167

From which are to be deducted—	
Hind's command, not in action,	186
Two companies of Coffee's brigade, left to hold the horses, estimated at	100
	<hr/> 286
	<hr/> 1881

Making, probably, about eighteen hundred men, rank and file. Of this force, two of the regiments were regular troops. One had been some years raised, but the other was composed of new men, levied the preceding year. The residue were militia. Some belonging to Louisiana and others to Tennessee, who had voluntarily tendered their services, and who had marched more than a thousand miles to repel the enemy from a distant border. It may convey some notion of the arduous nature of this service, and of the zeal and devotion of those who had cheerfully embarked in it, if we state, that General Coffee's command, having been informed that the enemy were hourly expected in force before New Orleans, and having been urged to hasten their movement, marched, in the last two days, one hundred and twenty miles, in an inclement season, and through a country almost inundated by the autumnal rains.

This force, about to place itself between the enemy and the object of his campaign, was, in a great measure, ignorant of the rudiments of discipline. Many of them had never seen an opposing weapon; and scarcely one of them had ever been brought into contact with civilized troops. They were now following their leader in a daring and desperate attack upon soldiers, who had fought in many a well contested field, and who were led by officers whose reputation had been acquired in the great schools of war in Portugal and Spain. Of the strength of the enemy at this time, we have no authenticated statement. Eaton and La Tour estimate it between four and five thousand men. Captain Cooke states that the first division consisted of sixteen hundred, and that this was reinforced during the action, so that at its close, the actual force of the British was two thousand, after deducting their loss. But there is an evident mistake in this computation, which is easily shown by a comparison of the accounts.

The whole number of troops embarked in this fleet with General Keane is stated by Captain Cooke to have been four thousand seven hundred. But the author of the "Narrative of the Campaigns of the British Army at Washington, Baltimore and New Orleans," &c., who was an officer in the expedition, estimates the strength of the army at this time, as follows:

* Qu. Goods.

The 93d regiment.
 Six companies of the 95th.
 Two West India regiments.
 Two squadrons of dismounted dragoons.
 Detachments of artillery, rockets, sappers and engineers,
 and recruits for the different corps in this part of the
 world.
 Being the force brought from England and collected in the
 West Indies, and amounting to 3500
 The 4th regiment.
 The 44th regiment.
 The 85th,
 which three had been serving in the Chesapeake.
 The 21st, which joined at Bermuda.
 The whole of these he estimates at 2500

Making the total amount of force, bayonets
 we presume, as this is evident from his
 allusion in the case of the Highlanders, 6000

Admiral Cochrane, in his despatch of Jan'y. 15th, 1815,
 reports, that by the 21st all the troops, except the greater
 part of the two black regiments and the dragoons, were
 embarked in the boats. The author of the "Narrative,"
 estimates the two black regiments at eight hundred each,
 making 1600
 Two squadrons of dragoons, say 100
 1700

We suppose that one thousand may be safely assumed as
 coming within the fair meaning of the "greater part," and
 we shall thus have five thousand as the number actually
 embarked at this time in the boats.

It is impossible to say how many of these were delayed
 till the action was over. But as it is known that heavy de-
 tachments arrived during its continuance, and took part in
 it, and as it is expressly stated that the "sound of firing
 reached them and roused the rowers from their indolence,"
 we may fairly take the estimates of Eaton and La Tour as
 exhibiting the probable number of the British troops, who
 took part in this contest during its progress.

The enemy was upon the Mississippi, and their im-
 mediate designs were unknown. As soon as General Jackson
 arrived in their vicinity, he proceeded forward to make
 reconnaissance of their position, and to arrange his plan of
 attack. The light of their fires enabled him to ascertain
 where they were stationed, and to perceive that they ex-
 tended from the river into the plain, and that strong picquet
 guards were posted at intervals between their right flank
 and the swamp, which is here about a mile and a half from
 the Mississippi. Although the usual routine of military
 duties was observed in the general disposition of the troops,
 and in the arrangement of the guards, there was still an
 evident impression among the British troops that they had
 little to apprehend from an enemy. The men were appar-
 ently enjoying themselves by a full indulgence in the good
 things which fortune had given them; such, says one of
 them, as "hams, fowls, and wines of various descriptions;"
 and the light of their fires rendered distinctly visible their
 whole arrangement and operations.

General Jackson's plan was instantly formed and com-
 municated to his officers. His right flank rested on the
 river, and his line extended into the plain, with General
 Coffee and his command upon the extreme left. That offi-
 cer was directed to endeavour to turn the right flank of
 the British, and to attack them in rear. The rest of the
 line, under General Jackson's immediate command, was to
 advance in front; and as orders had previously been sent to
 Colonel Morgan, who was stationed below with a detach-
 ment of about three hundred and fifty men, to co-operate in
 the attack, it was hoped he would be able to attain their
 rear, and thus succeed in intercepting their communication
 with the Bayou Bienvenue. General Coffee was to com-
 mence the attack, but this intention was frustrated by the
 intervention of a large double ditch, which his horses could
 not cross, and where he was compelled to leave them. In
 the meantime the armed Brig Caroline had been ordered
 by General Jackson to drop slowly down the river, and to
 anchor opposite the British camp. When the land attack
 commenced, she was to open her broadside upon the enemy.

Commodore Patterson accordingly descended the river,
 and having attained his position, dropped his anchor, and
 swung round upon his moorings. The character of his
 vessel seems to have been entirely unsuspected, and it was
 some time before she was challenged. No satisfactory
 answer being given, a rocket was thrown up, and Patter-

son finding longer concealment impossible, though still
 waiting for the signal, discharged an iron storm upon the
 British bivouac. Thus the action commenced.

SURVEY OF THE COAST. FIRST REPORT OF MR. HASSLER. [CONCLUDED.]

19. The method most advantageous, as well as most ex-
 peditions, for the determination of the places of soundings,
 within sight of some of the points determined by the sur-
 vey on land, is the application of the problem of these
 points; it is proper that this be done always upon a double
 series of points, if ever possible, for mutual verification;
 because, the position of the vessel being temporary, any
 error or omission would be irrevocable; and in the case
 of the points falling in a circle, which cannot always be
 judged from the point of observation, the problem itself
 becomes indeterminate, and no result would be obtained:
 other methods, which individual localities may suggest to
 a well-informed observer, will but seldom occur, so that
 it would be useless to enter into details in respect to
 them.

20. The determination of the place of a vessel at the
 moment when any sounding is taken, requires therefore,
 at least, three simultaneous observations with reflecting
 instruments, which are the only ones applicable on board
 of vessels. The collection of instruments for the Coast
 Survey has several reflecting repeating circles, made ac-
 cording to my directions, so as to correct all the errors of
 the instrument by a double observation. Though, in
 this individual case, the repeating circle may not always
 be applicable, for want of time of stay of the vessel,
 their result will, however, be preferable; because, even
 by a single observation, they furnish correction for eccen-
 tricity, &c. Though, therefore, for this special part of
 the work, other good reflecting instruments will, of
 course, be equally used, they will serve better in all ob-
 servations connected with astronomical observations, as
 admitting more time. A greater number of reflecting
 instruments will, of course, be required in the sequel of
 the work, and it will be proper to have them as uniform
 as possible, because the observations made by them will
 necessarily often be plotted by other persons in an office,
 in the absence of the observer, whose journals must
 therefore be kept very explicit and minute, as well as
 upon a general conventional form.

21. For soundings out of sight of land, where such
 may occur, those operations will be brought into activity
 that are dependent upon the joint results of chronometers
 and reflecting instruments, in the manner of determining
 the place of a vessel at sea, or the simple geographical
 determinations of latitude and longitude, by astronomical
 observations, which are too well known to need a de-
 tailed mention, except that it must be observed, that the
 chronometric determinations of time on board must al-
 ways be compared with corresponding ones on shore,
 at the nearest well-determined places, and that even with-
 out removing the chronometer from the vessel to the
 shore, or inversely, as the alteration they might undergo
 by it might easily be more than all the errors of the ob-
 servations might be. For these observations out of sight
 of land, the repeating reflecting instruments will be par-
 ticularly advantageous; the results obtained with them,
 by different observers and under various circumstances,
 have given the fullest satisfaction.

Though it might be attempted to try the determination
 of soundings out of sight of land, by the rate of going
 of vessels from well-determined points, either with steam-
 boats or others, there is too much uncertainty remaining,
 in respect to the steadiness of this rate of going, to allow
 the expectation of greater, or perhaps even the same, ac-
 curacy from such a method, than from the mere geogra-
 phical determinations just quoted.

22. Otherwise than in the manner and in the case de-
 tailed in the preceding section, chronometers can never
 be used for any determination of distances in an actual
 survey; though they will be used as the most convenient
 instrument for the determinations of smaller intervals
 of time for the astronomical observations connected with

it, on account of their transportability; by this qualification they have greatly superseded the use of the clocks that were employed before. But notwithstanding all the improvements of later years, they, by their construction, as well as by the nature of the determinations themselves, which they are intended for, cannot enter into any line of comparison with the means that we possess from other sides, and the methods above described; their accuracy is, besides, subject to uncertain chances, to which it would be the utmost imprudence to subject the results of an extensive survey. It is seldom that a chronometer retains the same rate on board of a vessel as it has on shore; therefore, not only the transfer from one state to the other is to be avoided, as above stated, but even the well-determined rate on shore is no fully certain proof of its rate at sea. From all these circumstances, the accuracy of chronometric results is always more or less in a floating state, inadmissible in a survey, though it may be disregarded in trans-marine determinations.

This uncertainty forms, in some measure, for each chronometer, a certain determined quantity, that may equally effect small and large differences of longitude; because, the effect of any defect of a chronometer is dependent on the accidents to which it is subject by it, and not on the intervening length of time. Chronometers free of defects are never obtainable with certainty; chance has still the greatest share in producing them; thence arise the high praises which chronometer-makers bestow upon themselves in their public advertisements, when, among so many hundreds of chronometers, which they make, two or three are successful; and these have been bought as a reward, by the government of the country where they were made.

23. It may be still observed, in relation even to that use of the chronometers which has been assigned to them, that a permanent well-attended observatory would be of considerable service, in like manner as the observatory of Greenwich has served for the determination of the longitude of Madeira and Heligoland, &c. &c., made by Dr. Tiarks, under order of the British Government, which has been both the most successful expedition of this nature ever made, and the fullest proof of the inapplicability of chronometers to actual surveys, and wherever geodetical means are possible; for, of twenty-nine chronometers, all equally well recommended and tried, and rated in observatories, in fact, about three gave satisfaction, and of the rest, a great number cannot even be said to have given a result.

24. In determining the soundings of bays, harbors, or any special part of the shore, it is necessary to have tide-gauges at both ends and even at intermediate places, observing its stand at properly divided parts, erected for the purpose, and at determinate small intervals of time, agreed upon and determined by the chief of the sounding embarkation, in order that the soundings made at any time on board may be referred to the state of the tide at the moment, and reduced to an uniform state of low water. The quantity of rise and fall of the tide must be ascertained, as well as the direction of its currents in rising and falling. All the peculiarities of this phenomenon must be minutely explored and recorded, as they are necessary data for the navigation. Such details, and many others relating to other parts of the work, will form the subject of the special instructions, with which it will be proper to furnish every operator in detail parts, all through the work.

25. These are the outlines of all the successive operations that will procure an honorable and permanently useful execution of the work, uniting the greatest utility and the accuracy absolutely required with all reasonable speed and economy. It must be executed by the best means and methods, obtainable from proper artists, and devised by science; the more perfect the means in assistants, instruments, and all that can facilitate the observations and other works, the greater will be the speed, the economy, and the usefulness of the results,—the more fully it will answer its aim, and become the base and standard of any future surveys that may be desired.

26. The present renewed law, by a proviso, prohibits the application of it to the establishment of a permanent

astronomical observatory, no doubt, with the view to provide, in a more adequate manner, for such an establishment as the state of civilization of the country, and the wants of the navy, actually require, for utility and credit equally. When even New Holland and the Cape of Good Hope have such observatories, that have yielded permanently useful results; and Russia, a country that rose out of complete darkness, at the same epoch when our country received the first impression of civilized footsteps, has about twenty well-endowed public observatories,—we can no longer delay such an establishment. The amount paid annually by the navy, for ascertaining the rates of chronometers, to watch-makers ill provided for accurate determinations, and which ought to be done in such an observatory, would provide a considerable part of its maintenance; and some of the most essential instruments needed are still in the collection made for the Survey of the Coast. The absence of the assistance of such an establishment, for the Coast Survey, must necessarily be supplied, in the mean time, by temporary arrangements, such as I had already begun preliminary to my former operations.

27. Of the mechanical organization of the work it will not be necessary to speak much in detail. It is necessary that the general direction be under a man of proper scientific acquirements in that branch of applied mathematics, in the same manner as all the great works of this nature have been in Europe: all originated first and were directed by members of academies of sciences or philosophical societies. For the assistants, the secondary triangulation, and the details, men of sufficient capacity and knowledge in each kind of work must be selected and placed under the direction of the chief, to enable him to accelerate the work gradually more and more, as more elements are obtained for their employment; and the law very properly provides, that naval and military officers, and citizens, should be employed indiscriminately, according to the peculiar direction of their knowledge and their fitness to the different works. A chief to whom the work can be entrusted will know how to make the distribution and the detail organization in such a way, as to take the best advantage of this disposition of the law, and of the men in the three classes, who undoubtedly will present themselves, to tender their assistance in a work that will be considered as an occasion for useful and honorable employment of their endowments and acquirements.

28. It is, of course, necessary that the assistants be all directed to follow the directions of the chief, who will give them written instructions as to their functions, and the principles most proper to follow in their works; that they deliver all their works, journals, &c. to the chief, and to no other person; that, therefore, the work shall centre around him, until ready for delivery to the Treasury Department, without whose orders or direction, no part of it shall be communicated to any other person. The chief must, by his own work and the organization of the whole, have provided himself with proper means to verify the works of the assistants in each branch.

29. As the results of the works must present, not only the delineation of the shore, the soundings, and what may appertain to the safety of navigation, but also all that can in any way be useful for the direction of the defence of the coast, in any given case or place, it is evident that the entire mass of the results of the work is for the Government of the country alone, and only the part useful for general naval purposes is published in the charts. Thus the works of this nature are always treated in Europe, and this very reason is alone the cause why they are not generally known.

30. As my former operations in this work were already made with all these views, and in conformity to this plan of operation—as the instruments procured by me in time for this work are calculated for such a plan, there are in general more on hand to execute the same than there would be for any other plan; my work of 1817 becomes immediately available for the purpose, and it will be possible to present, at a much earlier period and at much less expense of outfit, valuable results. The preliminaries

of such works are, by their nature, always long, and very tedious; these are, in part, made by my former works, and, therefore, so much of time and expenses is directly saved; besides that, the approbation which this plan of operation has received from every competent judge and the public in general, appears to stamp it as the only one that can be adopted with credit and success.

31. I might quote, as additional support, more particular details of the numerous works that have been executed, all invariably upon the same principles; but they may be considered as sufficiently known by the extensive public accounts of them that are printed. I consider it therefore proper to refrain from extending this letter over these particulars, as not properly appertaining to an official paper.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect and esteem,
Most honored Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. R. HASSLER.

Hon. LOUIS M'LANE,
Sec. of the Treasury of the U. S.
Washington City.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

Extract of a letter from on board the U. S. ship Constellation, dated at

PORTO CABELLO, 30th Nov. 1835.

The frigate stopped at Santa Cruz for a short time, the wind having set in against our course to Lagaira. Nothing can be imagined more beautiful than the Island of Santa Cruz:—it is in appearance a perfect paradise. As we approached, it seemed like an emerald crescent lying on the waters: and when near, we could not contain our admiration of its lofty mountains, rich valleys, and universal cultivation. Governor Von Scholten, during our short stay, gave a splendid ball, at which the Commodore and our cabin passengers were specially invited guests. We sailed thence on the 20th November, and reached Lagaira on the fifth day afterwards. The object in coming here was to protect American citizens and property, by the presence of the frigate, while a sudden and recent revolution continued to rage. The seat of conflict has shifted to where we now are. Porto Cabello, distant from us about half a mile, is in the hands of the insurgents, while the Castle, being well fortified and commandingly situated, holds out against those who are termed the rebels. Our ship lies as it were in some degree between the front of the town and the Castle, and as they interchange their bomb shells, though safely out of their range, we can hear the whizzing of these missiles. Yesterday our Commodore was visited by the Insurgent Chief, who explained the origin and grounds of the rebellion;—and to-day the authorities of the regular Government came on board.

Last evening I went, with a few others, rowing along the front of the town; it is nearly devastated; many of the houses burnt, and others battered down; a chapel which we visited was stained with the blood of hundreds, killed within its walls, about ten days ago. The rebel fleet, consisting of three schooners, is stationed near us, and a more horrible set of swarthy looking wretches than their crews I never beheld. They hoisted the piratical flag at one time, but soon lowered it. We feel entirely safe, though deeply interested. General Paez is said to be approaching the rebellious town with a large body of troops; he will probably reach the place to-morrow—and from our present position we shall overlook the battle, which is expected to be desperate and bloody, though short.—This will enable us to quit here very soon; for as soon as the struggle is over, and the American Consul, and the persons and property of our citizens ascertained to be again out of danger, the Commodore will sail for Trinidad de Cuba. I long to be moving a little northward—for the heats are intolerable. Such admirable care and spirit prevail, however, throughout our vessel, that we are all in excellent health.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

WEST END ST. CROIX, NOV. 18.

A duel was fought in this place this morning soon after sunrise, between midshipmen Baldwin, of New Jersey, and May, of the District of Columbia. They fought without seconds, and each one holding the opposite corner of a silk handkerchief. May's ball did a little mischief, it is said, among the short ribs of his adversary, though nothing

serious; while Baldwin's grounded so near as to have given the toes of May a mere hairbreadth escape. I should have sooner said that they are attached to the frigate Constellation, which has been now four or five days in this port.—The governor gave the officers a dinner and ball yesterday afternoon, and to-morrow a ball is to be given on board the frigate.

REVENUE CUTTERS.

This is the season of the year when this class of vessels have it in their power to render important aid to merchant vessels approaching the coast, and we are happy to perceive that several of them have been thus actively engaged.

The Brig Good Return, (of Baltimore,) Parker, Rio Grande, 95 days, with hides, wool, horns, &c., bound to New-York—put into Norfolk on the 27th ult. in distress, leaky. The G. R. has experienced very severe weather, and has been blown off from New-York three times—one of her crew was frozen to death, and three others so badly frozen that they were unable to attend to duty. One of the crew died that morning. The Captain and Mr. McEldery, a passenger, are also badly frosted. During the severe weather (for the space of two weeks) the pumps have been constantly going, night and day. Captain Parker takes this method of returning his sincere thanks to Capt. J. A. Webster, of the Revenue Cutter Taney, for his prompt attention in sending a part of his crew on board the G. R., who worked like good fellows at the pumps until their arrival at Norfolk. To Capt. Dorry of Steam Boat Champion, which he fell in with off Currituck on Friday last, and to the passengers on board, Captain P. is under many obligations, for their politeness in furnishing him with supplies.

Captain H. D. Hunter, of the Revenue Cutter Jackson, at Baltimore, tenders the service of that vessel and crew to any other which may be in distress, or require assistance during the winter, as long as the Cutter remains on the station, and which may not interfere with other duties. In making this tender, captain Hunter disclaims all interested motives—on the contrary, he wishes it to be understood that every assistance will be given within his reach without reward of any kind.

A CARD.

☞The subscriber returns his acknowledgements to Josiah Sturgis, Esq. Lt. Com. of the U. S. Revenue Cutter McLane, on the New Bedford station, and those under his command, for the effective and gratuitous service rendered him in saving his property from the wreck of the brig Hunter, at Nomans' Land, and the gentlemanly treatment he received on board the McLane.

JOHN OLDFIELD.

Providence, Dec. 11, 1835.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 6.

NAVAL.—A letter from an Officer of the U. S. ship Ontario, Capt. SALTER, to his friend in this city, dated Pernambuco, Nov. 9th, states the arrival of that vessel from St. Thomas, coast of Africa, whither she had proceeded from Rio, in August last, to obtain restitution of money, said to have been given by the Pirates, who were executed at Boston, to the Governor of that place, as a bribe. The effort was unattended with success, the Governor denying any knowledge of the facts alleged, or participation in the plunders of the pirate. Shortly after the Ontario left Rio, the Small Pox made its appearance on board, and continued to increase, until within ten days sail of St. Thomas, when there were about 40 cases on the Surgeon's report. After sustaining a severe gale of wind, the disease became milder, the number of cases diminished, and finally, on the arrival of the ship at St. Thomas, had nearly ceased, but one or two cases remaining. No deaths mentioned. The Ontario was immediately to have sailed from Pernambuco for Bahia and Rio.—*Courier.*

LARGE SHIPS.—The following appears in one of our exchange papers.

"It is stated in the London United Service Journal, that a ship of 110 guns, called the Royal Sovereign, is building at Portsmouth, tonnage 3099, and that the frames of two others to be called Victoria and Algiers, of the same size and model, are preparing at Plymouth.

These ships are to be the commencement of a new class of first rates of tremendous power, to be armed on the lower decks with long 68 pounders."

Hitherto the 32 pounder gun has been the heaviest used in the British navy. In fact, a gun of that size requires as many men to handle as can easily get round it. Forty-two pounder guns have been cast and intended for use in the largest ships of the American line, but the opinions of intelligent officers have been expressed against them. A 42 pound shot has a diameter of only about three eighths of an inch greater than that of a 32 pound ball, whilst the gun is of course proportionably heavier and more unwieldy. It is therefore probable that the 68 pounder cannon spoken of in the *United Service Journal*, are upon the plan of M. Paixhans—a sort of long mortar on trunnions, intended to project hollow shot and shells. Cannon on this principle are in experimental use both in the marine and field service of France. *Philadelphia Gaz.*

STEAM NAVIGATION TO LONDON.—We have been furnished with a copy of the prospectus of an Association in London, for establishing the "First Line of Steam Ships to run between London and New York." The capital of the Company is £500,000, in 5000 shares of £100 each. A letter from London of the 6th November, says—"The prospectus has been out only three days, and already 4700 shares (within 250 of the whole) are already applied for in lots of 3 to 90 shares each."—*New York Mercantile Adv.*

The conduct of the marines on the morning of the fire and during the night of Thursday, merits all praise. They were called early in the morning of Wednesday to protect the property of our citizens. They were on duty during the whole of that day, and we are informed that it was not until evening that they received the slightest refreshment. The soldiers from Governor's Island also deserve great credit for their deportment in protecting the property of our citizens. Their orderly but firm demeanor, their strict charge of the property left under their protection and their respectfulness to all, were the themes of general approbation.—*New York Times.*

WASHINGTON GUARDS.—Frederick Wilkinson Esq. late of the U. S. Army, was on Monday night last unanimously elected first Lieutenant of this new and beautiful Corps. This selection, made by the members of the guards, shows on their part a determination to be commanded by officers in every respect worthy and capable of commanding them. A more efficient drill officer than Lieut. Wilkinson, it would be difficult to have found, nor one who more unites those qualities to endear him to his fellow soldiers, and command their respect.—*New Orleans True American, Dec. 9.*

MOUNT VERNON.—A fire broke out in the Green House at Mount Vernon on Thursday night, the seventeenth inst. which destroyed part of that building, besides part of the quarters. It was discovered and extinguished before the flames reached the venerable mansion—which escaped wholly uninjured. The destruction of property was not very great, and the whole damage to the Green House and other out buildings can be shortly repaired.

COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, }
District of Apalachicola, Nov. 18, 1835. }

TO MASTERS OF VESSELS.—The subscriber takes this method of informing masters of vessels, that he has, since the loss or wreck of the brig Edwin, on the bar at the west entrance of this port, made an examination of the bar, and has ascertained that the channel has materially altered, so that the bearings as given in Blunt's Coast Pilot, do not serve, owing to the washing away of Flag Island, and that he has placed a large black buoy (which may be easily seen at the distance of five miles) immediately opposite the entrance over the bar, where the best of the water will be found, keeping the buoy close aboard on either side. The course is due north, which brings the three tall trees on St. Vincent's Island to bear, and must be run for.—

When the survey was made, the tide was unusually low, and at which time there was 11 feet of water on the outer bar, so that in ordinary tides 13 feet may be found, if the above instructions are followed.

GAL. J. FLOYD, Collector.

Captain Hammond, of the ship *Amethyst*, arrived at New Bedford on the 22d ult. from the Pacific, reports that in passing Kepples and Boscawen Islands, saw two reefs, one bearing N. N. E. distance 25 miles, the other S. S. W. the same distance—was informed by Capt. Wm. Swain, of ship *Sarah and Elizabeth*, that a rock, bearing from Boscawen's Island, N. by E. half E. distance 27 miles, is just above water, which is not laid down in any chart.

SELECTED POETRY.

COLUMBIA'S BIRTH-DAY.

BY MISS H. F. GOULD.

AIR—"O, Give me but my Arab steed!"

We hail Columbia's Natal day,
And see its glories shine
To light the votive gifts we lay
At Freedom's holy shrine!
This hallowed day our fathers gave
The shout of "LIBERTY!"
And, by their spirits and the glave,
Avowed their country free!
They fearless then, the battle braved,
And stood the haughty foe,
Where light and high their banner waved,
They laid Oppression low.

But, warm the noble hearts that bled,
Where Freedom's vot'ries knelt!
Her Altar's flame with life was fed
Their foreign chains to melt.
In blood and death our laurels grew,
With verdure ne'er to cease:
They shone impearled with sorrow's dew,
Beside the branch of peace!
On piercing thorns our fathers trod,
In this bright land of ours,
To soften for their sons, the sods
Now strewn with fruits and flowers.

Then, sacred be our Liberty!
And may its glory beam
On every wave, that man shall see,
Of Time's resistless stream!
We bid the children keep in sight
The spirit of the sire—
To hold the watch-tower, and to light
Betimes the beacon fire!
We bid the millions, who shall rise
When we have passed away,
With joy to hail, and ever prize
COLUMBIA'S NATAL DAY!

From the *Baltimore Chronicle.*

SONG OF THE AMERICAN GIRL.

Our hearts are with our native land,
Our song is for her glory;
Her warrior's wreath is in our hand,
Our lips breathe out her story.
Her lofty hills and valleys green
Are smiling bright before us;
And, like a rainbow sign is seen
Her proud flag waving o'er us.

And there are smiles upon our lips
For those who meet her foemen,
For Glory's star knows no eclipse
When smiled upon by woman.
For those who brave the mighty deep,
And scorn the threat of danger,
We've smiles to cheer—and tears to weep
For every ocean ranger.

Our hearts are with our native land,
Our song is for her freedom;
Our prayers are for the gallant band
Who strike where honor leads them.

We love the taintless air we breathe,
'Tis Freedom's endless dower,
We'll twine for him a fadeless wreath
Who scorns a tyrant's power.

They tell of France's beauties rare,
Of Italy's proud daughters;
Of Scotland's lasses—England's fair,
And nymphs of Shannon's waters;
We heed not all their boasted charms,
Though lords around them hover:—
Our glory lies in Freedom's arms,—
A Freeman for a lover.

J. H. H.

WASHINGTON CITY; THURSDAY,.....JANUARY 14, 1836.

INDIAN DISTURBANCES IN FLORIDA.—The threatening attitude of the Seminole Indians produced so much consternation among the inhabitants in the immediate vicinity, that public meetings were called in Charleston, S. C. and at Savannah, Geo. to raise volunteers to aid their fellow citizens in Florida. A requisition was also made on Gen. Eustis, the commanding officer of U. S. troops in Charleston harbor, for arms and ammunition, which were shipped in the schooner *George and Mary* and steamer *Champion*.

Gen. Clinch was at Miccinopy on the 21st Dec. with a few regulars; Gen. Call was there also and had about 500 mounted militia and volunteers. Captains Thruston and Lee, and Lieuts. Clark and Jones, of the U. S. army, were to have left Jacksonville on the 31st ult. on horseback for Fort King. Major Dade, of the 4th Infy. had been ordered to Tampa, where five companies of U. S. troops would be assembled, of which, being the senior officer, he would have the command.

The importance attached to a name is often times of more weight than the most forcible arguments from unknown or unheeded sources. The opinions of WASHINGTON will ever be held in veneration and received with deference by his countrymen. It was his decided belief, as expressed in a letter to Congress in 1776, (from which an extract will be found below,) that a train of field artillery was highly essential to the success of military operations in the field. The same opinion has been held by many officers of our army, from that day to this; but whether from motives of economy, or from the absence of apparent necessity, the recommendation has never been carried into effect. Perhaps, now that the aspect of our foreign affairs is rather unsettled, the attention of Congress may be brought to this important subject.

[EXTRACT.]

GENERAL GREENE'S QUARTERS,
14th NOVEMBER, 1776,

"I would therefore, with the concurrence of all the officers, whom I have spoken to upon the subject, submit to the consideration of Congress, whether immediate measures ought not to be taken for procuring a respectable train. It is agreed on all hands, that each battalion should be furnished at least with two pieces, and that a smaller number than a hundred of three pounds, fifty of six pounds, and fifty of twelve pounds, should not be provided, in addition to those we now have. Besides these, if some eighteen and twenty-four pounders are ordered, the train will be more serviceable and complete. The whole should be of brass, for the most obvious reasons; they will be much more portable, and not half so liable to

burst; and when they do, no damage is occasioned by it, and they may be cast over again. The size before described should be particularly attended to; if they are not, there will be great reason to expect mistakes and confusion in the charges in time of action, as it has frequently happened in the best regulated armies. The disparity between those I have mentioned, and such as are of an intermediate size, is difficult to discern."

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEO. WASHINGTON."

We understand, that, in consequence of some remarks contained in the finding of the Court Martial, held in Baltimore in July last, for the trial of Purser W. P. Zantlinger, Lieut. S. W. Downing has again urged his application to the Navy Department (first presented soon after the adjournment of the said Court) for a Court of Enquiry, or a Court Martial, to investigate the allegations injurious to his character, which, it is understood, were set forth in the finding above referred to.

We regret that we cannot supply several of the back numbers of the *Chronicle*, which have been applied for. Nos. 40 to 46 are entirely exhausted. Perhaps some subscribers who have these deficient numbers, and do not care to preserve their file, will return them to the editor. Some have already done so.

Remittances by mail will be acknowledged on the cover, to be furnished with the last number of each month.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Jan. 7.—Brig. Gen. W. K. Armistead, 3d Arty. at Gadsby's.

Bvt. Capt. A. Lowd, 2d Arty at Fuller's.
Lt. J. B. Magruder, 1st " "

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 31.—Per steampacket *William Gibbons*, from New York, Lieuts. C. J. Whiting of the 2d Artillery, and H. Prince, of the 4th Infantry, U. S. A.

Jan. 4.—per steamboat *Champion*, from Alexandria, D. C., Col. W. Lindsay, Major J. D. Graham, and Lieut. J. F. Kennedy, of the army.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 31.—per steamboat *Marion*, from Pittsburgh, Lieut. G. Morris, of the army.

THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE--NEW YEAR'S DAY.

As usual, on the first day of the year, the President opened his drawing rooms, and held a levée from 12 until 2 o'clock. Among the first who arrived were the members of the Cabinet and their Ladies; next the Diplomatic Corps; then the Senators with their families, the Members of the House of Representatives with their Ladies, and the other officers of the Government, together with the Officers of the Army and Navy, and respectable citizens and strangers. The number of carriages and handsome equipages exceeded any former occasion; and although the rooms were thronged, still there reigned that order and regularity which gave to every one an opportunity of enjoying himself on the day, and of offering to the venerable Chief Magistrate those courtesies and salutations, which suit the season, and which are reciprocated so cordially by friends and acquaintances on the return of the new year.

THE PRESIDENT stood in the centre of the Circular Drawing Room, and there received the visitors. His appearance was much better, as to health, than usual. Perhaps, having thrown off, for the day, the cares of State, and yielded himself to the gratification of his numerous friends, he was enlivened by the joy which his presence spread around; for although President Jackson is thoughtful, while engaged in his important duties, he is

ever alive to the regards of his fellow citizens, and charmed by the courteous attentions which they and all others so willingly yielded to him.

Having stated the position of the President, we will give some account of the stations taken by his interesting family, and the Members of the Cabinet.

A little retired from the position of the President, and near the fire place, were Mrs. Jackson, the President's daughter-in-law, and Mrs. Donelson his niece, both ladies remarkable for their beauty and amiable manners; they never appeared to more advantage than on this morning. Their dresses were so appropriate to the occasion and so becoming in their colors and arrangement, that one could not see these Ladies without admiring them, and it was a difficult matter to say which of the two was the most engaging. They are both good specimens of American Ladies.

The VICE PRESIDENT stood near the President's family. He was dressed in a plain suit of black; his neatness of person and easy deportment were conspicuous. He received no small share of the attentions of those who were present.

The next person in consequence and in consideration is the Speaker of the House of Representatives. He also took his post near the President's family, attended by his interesting lady. Mr. Polk is a gentleman of very bland manners, dignified in his carriage, without any of that hauteur, which sometimes accompanies men lately raised to high stations. He seemed to engage much attention, and reciprocated the courtesies proffered with kindness.

Mr. Secretary Forsyth, Mr. Sec. Woodbury, Mr. Sec. Cass, Mr. Sec. Dickerson, and the Post Master General, stood in the order here mentioned in a line, or rather segment of a circle, in the rear of the President.

Mr. Forsyth is a remarkably graceful man; his manner is that of a finished gentleman.

Mr. Sec. Cass has the air of a man of thought, strongly marked features, with strong evidence of talent.

Mr. Woodbury is a man of much firmness of character, exhibiting great perseverance; he is not more esteemed for his amiable qualities as a man than for his untiring industry as an officer.

Mr. Dickerson is the very personification of goodness, tempered with justice. His sound sense and amiability carry him smoothly along and have gained for him many friends.

We did not see the Attorney General, last though not least of the members of the Cabinet; he was probably absent from the seat of Government. Mr. Butler possesses rare qualities and qualifications, and there is something so intelligent and intellectual in his countenance, he is so easy in his deportment, that every person is at once taken in by his unsophisticated manner and delighted with his acquaintance.

We did not observe any but Mrs. Polk, the Lady of the Speaker, and Mrs. Woodbury. Mrs. Polk possesses a neat person and is of the ordinary height; her air is graceful and her countenance indicative of mildness, excellence and intelligence.

Mrs. Woodbury is perhaps a little taller than Mrs. Polk, has a remarkably youthful appearance, with all the bloom which usually accompanies a good northern constitution. Her dress was becoming and her manner attractive.

The absence of Mrs. Cass was owing to the fatigues of a large party, given at her house the evening before, taking leave of the old year and welcoming the new. A party which for numbers and brilliancy has not been surpassed in this city. The ladies were dressed in a style becoming such a party, and were highly gratified in partaking of the gayety of that evening. A more dignified and lovely person could not be mentioned than Mrs. Cass; a perfect example of that lady-like deportment and consistent piety, which so adorn the sex; nor is she without those personal attractions which are so highly prized by the softer sex and admired by the other.

Mrs. Forsyth, whose health is delicate, was probably detained at home by that cause. With a fine commanding figure, easy and graceful carriage, Mrs. F. combines

many excellencies of person and mind, and shines pre-eminently for her piety. We, however, noticed the interesting daughters of these Ladies, especially the two Misses Cass, who took their proper places, and were surrounded by some elegant young officers of the army.

The Foreign Ministers were in full costume. Among them we were glad to see Baron Krudener, whose health had been delicate, but now, by the mild climate of Washington, seems to be quite restored.

The darkness of the rooms, and the immense assemblage, prevented us from particularizing many interesting and beautiful Ladies, who graced the drawing room on the 1st January.

The members of Congress with their ladies, being in some degree strangers, it was difficult to ascertain the names of all; but they certainly gave by their presence a dignity to the general assemblage and added much to its brilliancy.

Among the foreigners, we noticed the Earl of Selkirk, son of the late Lord Selkirk, who visited this country some sixteen years ago, and who had so much difficulty with the Canada Fur Company, which about that time invaded his territory on the Red river. The young Earl is an unassuming and intelligent gentleman, and we were happy to meet him at the President's.

The Officers of the Army and Navy, mostly appeared in their respective uniforms. The military dress is much improved and more becoming than that heretofore worn by the line. The Commander-in-Chief of the army, attended by his aids, Majors Cooper and Van Buren, was quite conspicuous; he seems in good health, and able to stand a good number of campaigns yet.

Major Gen. Scott was also looking in fine health; as well as Generals Gibson, Jones, Wool, Gratiot and Towson, and many Colonels, Majors and Captains.

We were gratified to see Commodore Rodgers out; we had understood that his health was delicate. Com. Chauncey appeared in fine spirits, as did Com. Woolsey, and several other Navy Officers. The Officers of the Marine Corps have a very splendid dress; it is a green and buff; the shape and distinctions like those of the army officers.

On the whole, the Officers of the Army and Navy gave quite an effect to the general appearance of the Levée.

The French Legation was not present, which we may suppose is indicative of some feeling on its part.

In the great Hall was exhibited the large cheese, lately presented to the President. It was put up in a case, ornamented with paintings and some inscriptions, which it was difficult to read on account of the vast number of persons it attracted.

The Marine Band played during the continuance of the Levée; the ladies and gentlemen promenaded through the several apartments, which were opened on the occasion, and the whole seemed a gala very appropriate, and went off with eclat.

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE NAVY.

Stations.	Captains.	Commanders.
12 Ships of the line	12	12
17 Frigates	17	4*
15 Sloops of war	00	15
7 Schooners	0	7
3 Navy Commissioners	3	0
9 Naval Stations	9	9
1 Ordnance	1	0
6 Rendezvous	0	6
5 Receiving Ships	0	5
	42	59

* Frigates bearing flags.

We enumerate the commands of the Navy and the officers necessary to fill them. Many of the ships, though in a situation to be launched, remain yet on the stocks,—others decaying and decayed at the dock yards, and but a small proportion of the whole afloat. Hence the impres-

sion that the present number of the two higher grades of the service are adequate to all its ends; and in the which we too would accord, provided the Navy is to be continued in its present disposition, and there be nothing of consideration intended to the officer who has long and faithfully served his country. But were the vessels of war belonging to the United States completed, and being under construction, called for,—and such contingences may arise to us—what then the situation, the condition of our lists? Worse than deficient, and the 33 Captains and 40 Commanders, without considering relief or disability from whatsoever cause,—and for the both we must estimate,—would be found wholly unequal to its equipment. There are 51 vessels of war, exclusive of the gradual increase; for the command of which, are required 29 post Captains and 38 Commanders; beside there are 21 stations attaching to the Navy, calling for 13 Captains and 20 Commanders—making an aggregate of 101 commands: to command which there are of the grades entitling commands 78; leaving a deficit of 6 Captains and 19 Commanders, and this allowing every officer equal to his duty; which we must not suppose possible, and it is not necessary that further reasons should be given than that the Navy with other associations is equally liable to casualties. A nation whose mercantile interests rank as do those of the United States, whose bearing, whose prosperity, whose very being depends so much upon this arm of its defence, should boast a Navy somewhat beyond the narrow limit which distinguishes ours, and which for a lengthened period has embarrassed its efficiency and once high distinction. There are 'in extenso' admitted to the Navy, 40 Captains and 40 Commanders,—of which in the grade of Captains there are 2 vacancies for its entire appointment; and for the purposes of a country holding 2000 miles of sea coast, innumerable rivers, bays, and inlets; 15 millions of population; a trade \$240,000,000, bearing its flag to the remotest regions; more money in the treasury than we know how possibly to dispose of, and without an incumbrance whatsoever. With all the which we are told: you need not promotion in the Navy,—you need not higher grades. So do we not, if it be the purpose of the nation to trample under foot, the gallant spirits who have won distinction to their flag, consideration to their country, and further to render the miserable limit both as to grades and numbers the derision of the world. Of ourselves, if we are to represent our country, which we pray to do, well and truly, let it not be upon shadow—upon pretence. Lay us up altogether or give position correspondent to the services, with which we are daily contacting; give us the first rank call that by what name you will; give us range with the very highest grades of other services; we are not less deserving. This is essential; neglect it, and lament afterward, the consequences. We have generals in the Army, why not admirals in the Navy? If the term Admiral be obnoxious, give us too the title of General. General of Marine would not be inappropriate; it signifies what the Navy wants—rank—'tis a naval designation,—distinction, which the inferior grade of Captain does not convey. It may be said that as the rank of Captain is the highest recognised to the Navy of the United States, so must it range with the first grade of any other navy. And so with us, and at home, it may; it will not do though abroad. We, who have seen more of other countries than our own, know this to be the case, and have felt many and oftentimes the mortification and annoyance of the inferior grade so long continued to the Navy. We take, as we have a right to do, the Senior Captain of our Navy,—we have no Commodores,—than whom no navy has boasted a superior; he has exceeded a period of 37 years service in that grade and still is a—Captain. Is the nation satisfied that this officer, with others in turn following him, and whose names are associated with the brightest incidents of its glorious history, should remain longer as Captains? We must not—we do not believe this to be the feeling. The deterioration of the Navy is a melancholy truth; it needs a something stirring; its officers are worn out upon expectancies; their once high esprit du corps passed and gone. If we

would call back that which of right belongs to the navy—if we would fill its officers with the spirit and pride essential to its proper bearing—increase the lists both as to grades and numbers. Send afloat the fine ships, which for years have remained to rot at our wharves. Our own situation, the condition of the world forces upon us the firmest conviction, that we shall have to do with as much in this way, as under any circumstances we can hope to manage. Is it not advisable then, that we should familiarise with commands those to whom are to be committed our flag, our interests? A commander of a ship of war is not the growth of an instant; however clever the man, he feels his first responsibility, which practice can alone dispose of; and that this, the most trying of all sensations to the man about to engage his ship, should not exist—we recommend that the navy be put in condition for observation—for practice. Let us not be behind those with whom we may soon have to contend; let us protect, and cherish, a reputation won at the expense of so many hard knocks. Were we oppressed by pecuniary exigency, or the revenue of the country other than it is, there might be some reason why the Navy should remain upon its present very small limit; but with twenty odd millions in the Treasury, and the necessity at hand for the use of the Navy, why not lessen the chances of a squabble for its disposition among the States, and apply a portion of it to the practice—the improvement—of this important arm of defence. We should say that an hundred Captains and an hundred Commanders would not exceed the number which it would be both proper and judicious to grant the Navy. We doubt indeed whether, in the event of war, this number would cover its necessities. This may appear an extravagant estimate, that we have never had half the number; but when we take into consideration the growth of the country, the proposed increase of ships, the abundant means of the nation, and the importance of a navy, it must be considered otherwise. The six senior captains should receive the rank of Admiral; the six following that of Vice Admiral. This would bring to the command of single ships, young active, and enterprising men, who, having passed through one war as subordinates, may, upon the occurrence of another, be fairly entitled to command. Our maxim, "sufficient for the day is the evil thereof," is brought here to bear, as in matters else of importance. We will not cast loose the guns, until the enemy is upon us, nor will we promote as long as an excuse can be found for delay. We however would say, and based upon some experience too, (if four and twenty years may give claim to such pretension,) prepare in peace those who in war are to command the ships, to sustain the flag, to protect the country. Will not some one, having the interest and influence to effect it, move that the important grades of the Navy be hereafter fixed upon a scale corresponding to our national character? There are 200⁰ passed midshipmen, averaging ten years service, to whom this increase will afford a something of prospect—of hope—which now they are without. We are quite sure there is no man who pays a dollar into the treasury, who has upon the ocean a stick of timber, or a yard of canvass, who will not say 'increase the Navy.' And who will or can say that the *midshipmen of the war*, who have been *Lieutenants* 19 and 20 years, should longer remain in that position? Than ourselves, there are none who require so much an incentive—a something to which to look—with which to recall the fast ebbing, if not already passed, spirit for which the navy has been so proudly marked. We ask again, is there no reward for our services, which under every circumstance of trial and exposure, we have cheerfully and without murmur given to the country? We call upon the nation for justice; we hope to receive it. It may be urged that an hundred Captains, and an hundred Commanders, would exceed what we could find use for. Not so—indeed not so! We have, in addition to the number of ships estimated for, 4 ships of the line; 7 frigates; 7 sloops; 3 steam batteries; and 7 schooners; the material of which is already prepared, the gradual increase still going on, and this for times of peace. The contingency of a war, would certainly double the force which, embracing shore

commands, would require the appointment together of 262 Captains and Commanders. Now we think it will be well to prepare some of these officers, and not remain until an enemy is within our waters to open our energies to so important a measure. At this moment (and an instant of peculiar interest it is,) we have afloat, for home defence, not an available ship; the entire force in commission would not form a decent squadron; one 74 and 4 frigates constitute the responsible force engaged, or which could possibly be put to sea within six months. The small ships we should not consider, they too are few and far between. If words have at all a meaning, a war with France is inevitable. We need not disguise it.

In this, the allusion to our inferior appointments, both as to officers and ships, we know well the efficiency, which practice, which manœuvre has given the French Marine. Whilst the French, in a period exceeding 20 years, have availed of every means of improvement to their Navy; we on the other hand have permitted ours to pass into inertness,—indifference—and our ships cast from their ways only to rot. The French have the largest description of ships and it is not very probable that these ships will be found singly,—at least until our strength shall have been measured. We are told, and upon the highest authority, that there are 15 sail of the line and 18 frigates in readiness for our coast. *Their purpose peaceable no doubt.* What have we to meet such an array, should the intention be otherwise? Not a single ship; not a floating battery; and this but a small moiety of what France could display if she should see an occasion. For ourselves we are first without officers—next without men, and lastly without ships. This is the condition—gainsay it who may. With every effort, with men, which we cannot procure, the Nav of the United States could not be put to sea within six months. What then is to become of us the while? But is not our wont to think of consequences; we are content to defer for the morrow, that which belongs to-day. We say that there will be no war—that it is proclaimed, so we suppose, must it be. “The French will pay the money.” Now as often as we have asked from what these *favorable conclusions* were drawn, we have not received a sensible reply; nor what we considered at all to bear upon the case. We know not the French, nor the feelings actuating that nation, if we measure them upon such scale. There is more before than the French, and which with all our far-sightedness we see not. This however we need not discuss,—our intention is a word upon the subject of rank and service—we mean the creation of additional grade, an increase of the number of the two higher grades—so at least as to bring in the midshipmen of the war, now Lieutenants, a correspondent number of passed midshipmen, and the employment of the whole in some purpose useful, and which may secure brilliant conduct to the Navy and consequent elevation to the country.

SATURDAY NIGHT, Jan. 9, 1836.

THE NEW INFANTRY TACTICS.

No. II.

In my first number, the history of American tactics was brought down to the present year, and the last resolution of the House of Representatives on the subject given, in which it was required that our system should be made to embrace “the recent improvements,” in this branch of military science.

It was found, on the widest inquiry, that a similar labor had, but a short time before, been executed in France with infinite care and admirable success, and this, too, on the precise basis already long familiar to our army. To preserve to us all the benefits of this old experience, the revised French book—even if it had not been known to be the best extant—was the preferable model. It has accordingly been selected and entirely translated, with such alterations in the text as were indispensable to adapt it to the particular constitution of our infantry.

I shall now proceed to give the reasons for the revision in France, of 1831, as they are methodically developed

in the Report addressed to Marshal Soult by the Commission (or Board) under the eyes of which the work was, by its able author, digested and finished. The same reasons will be found equally to apply to nearly all the points of difference between our book of the present year, and that of 1825. The Report is rather long, but I hope to compress it, with some current remarks, into three or four additional numbers.

“The Commission, charged with the revision of the ordinance of August 1, 1791, concerning the *exercices* and *manœuvres* of Infantry, being in accord with the whole army on the merits of the system, saw, from the beginning, that there was nothing to change in its plan or division, and that it would only be necessary to give a little more extension to some of the manœuvres, generally regarded as incomplete; to suppress others, long acknowledged as impracticable in the field; and to replace the latter with such as our last wars had caused us to feel the want of.

“Such are the grounds on which the Commission established its labor. It has thought that it was not sufficient that troops should be able to move in all directions; but, moreover, that the movements should be made by means the most certain and prompt; provided that such means were neither forced nor complicated: and all the changes which have been made tend solely to this end.

“TITLE I, ARTICLE 1.—Formation of Infantry, &c.

“The Commission, without adopting exclusively, the three-rank formation, has thought it necessary to preserve it as the habitual order of depth, because it is infinitely (*infiniment*) more solid than that of two ranks, and for this reason inspires the soldier with greater confidence: besides, it throws more lead from a given front, and the men of the third rank are always at hand to replace those of the second and first. Nevertheless, as the formation in two ranks gives the means of extending a line, and consequently may frequently be of use, the Commission has prescribed rules for passing from three to two ranks, and reciprocally, to the end that, in all cases, a commander may take that of the two formations which he may believe to be the most advantageous.”

Such the Report, which is supposed to be fully carried out by this short and single provision in the *body* of the French book: “Each company shall be *habitually* formed into three ranks;” and not another word is said of the other formation, except where the *manner* is prescribed of passing from three to two, and from two to three ranks, and also under the head of *sticking arms*.

Now if a commander be at liberty, at all times, under the French text (I do not include the *Report*) to form his men into two ranks, so may he take the same formation under a similar provision, No. (paragraph) 15, of our new tactics. In the latter, a bare preference is intimated for the one or other formation according to the strength of companies; but such preference is no barrier against special views and reasons, or the particular circumstances of the case which he may always justifiably plead under a rule so designedly framed. The matter, in all cases, is, therefore, by the American book, almost entirely left to the full discretion of the commander.

In peace, the French book of 1791 permitted the two-rank formation, and ours of 1815 directed that “*exercices* shall be frequent in the order of three deep,” and prescribed the manner of forming a company in that order; but the first book had no details for two, and the second not one, beyond what is mentioned, for the three-rank formation. The French tactics of 1831 is, as we have noticed, equally barren in respect to two ranks, whereas our new book, by a skilful contrivance, and with infinite labor of precision, *throughout* supplies the omissions, and this too, without augmenting the number of pages beyond three or four. That labor, however, is nothing to the reader. He sees at once, in every place, and without confusion, whatever is peculiar to the one or other formation.

And where is the vice of an arrangement at once so simple and complete? Or why shall a commander, in presence of the enemy, not be allowed, under a sound discretion, to increase the solidity of his line by a slight

diminution of its front, seeing that victory depends on the measure? To deny him the option would be as mischievously absurd as to prescribe that attacks shall always be made in line, and never in column. Yet this discretionary depth of three-ranks has excited much prejudice and clamour against the book. All professions, it seems, are accursed with more or less of bigotry, and the military has certainly its portion, ever ready to direct itself against changes in general. I speak, of course, of the weaker brethren—of those who are “rather of the profession, than of the science” of arms.

It is not my purpose to review the long controversy between *l'ordre mince et l'ordre profond*, which, commencing about the year 1740, agitated every army in Europe. Folard, Maizeroy, Mesnil-Durand, and a host of others of the same school, hotly contended for the habitual order of masses, after the manner of the Macedonians and Romans. Lloyd urged four ranks. At length Guibert, by a decisive work—*Defense du Systeme de Guerre Moderne*—settled, in 1779, the question in favour of three, as previously established in several armies, and which depth has maintained its ground, throughout the continent of Europe, down to the present day.

The objection, in the United States, to a discretionary third rank, can only be referred to a want of experience. The lamented General Pike, and others, in the late war, occasionally drew up their troops in the greater depth. Their example is forgotten; yet a little reflection, it would seem, might supply the want of actual experience.

There is no mystery—“art untaught and unteachable,”—in one formation more than in the other. Instruction in the greater depth includes instruction in the smaller. The former being well established, a single exercise in two ranks will generally be sufficient. Not a lesson, therefore, given to three ranks, would be thrown away, although this depth were never assumed in front of the enemy. In short, the main difficulty, in both formations, is with the front rank. The men in the other ranks have the easier task of merely conforming themselves to that. This is equally true whether it be a perpendicular or oblique march by the front; whether it be a march by the flank, a wheel or a turn; and, in all, the third rank has rather an easier part than even the second; because it is better to have two objects to regulate one's self upon than a single object.

The ranks in the rear, however, have one small difficulty entirely to themselves: each is expected, in the march by the front, (whether in line or in column,) to lock up with the rank immediately preceding; but this difficulty is precisely the same with the second, as with the third rank. And if an entire battalion be required and expected, as in all the book—French, English, American, &c.,—to march by the flank in the lock-step, without opening out to the rear, surely there can be no sort of difficulty in bringing files, only three deep, to execute this step with the most perfect accuracy.

Something has been confusedly said of the application of the three-rank formation to raw recruits of the army, and to militia newly embodied. If such be your materials, my advice is, *first, instruct them*. If there be not time, then it is useless to take them in front of the enemy, in open space, in one, two, or twenty ranks. Militia, composed of individuals highly respectable as citizens, may do very well behind cotton bags, or other entrenchments, (where manœuvres are not required,) by the mere force of courage and patriotism; but in open space, their defeat would be inevitable. The whole question, then, which has been so darkly conceived, resolves itself into mere instruction, or the want of it; and it has already been shown, instruction may be as promptly imparted to three as to two ranks.

Another objection: the surface of our country—its forests, the want of wide roads and bridges. Let us suppose the worst case—a deep and angry stream to pass, and on a single log. Well; if this be a sufficient bridge for a body of men in two ranks, marching by the flank, it will serve also for the same body formed into three. (See new Tactics, Nos. 970, 971.)

But there are certain positive and important advantages

belonging to the three-rank formation, over that of two ranks, which neither author nor critic seems ever to have brought into this controversy.

We will suppose a body of a thousand infantry, drawn up in one way, and a like force in the other: 1. The entire battalion, in three ranks, will advance in line any given distance with more accuracy than the battalion with a front one-third wider; because, the difficulty of this most difficult movement is increased in the exact proportion of the increase of front. 2. A similar advantage (in the maintenance of alignments) will fall to the same battalion in the march in column. 3. Wheel the two battalions, each entire, any portion of the circle, and the one in three ranks will execute the movement in two-thirds of the time of the other. 4. Wheel from line into column; or, 5. Wheel from column into line, by subdivisions of the same numbers, and there will be the same advantage, in time, in favor of the three ranks. 6. File from line into column: or, 7. From column into line, and again and again the same result. Add, to the same side, the advantages enumerated in the Report, and it is evident that the three-rank formation, if not always, may frequently be adopted with immense benefits.

Jomin, in his last work, *Tableau Analytique, &c.*, and which must have been before the late French Commission, disusses the question of depth with his usual judgment, and concludes, that the capacity of forming into either three or two ranks, is essential to constitute an effective body of infantry. He, however, is mistaken in a particular fact: he supposes the British squares, at Waterloo, to have been formed of but two ranks. Now I have conversed with an intelligent officer who was in one of these squares when hotly charged, and he assured me that it certainly presented fronts three deep; nor do I see how it could have been otherwise; for Dundas's book, then in force, expressly prescribed that depth, and the new British book of 1833, gives the means of forming four ranks, with a view to the same manœuvre—the square against cavalry.

Clairfait, the critic before noticed, “with a seasoning slight of lucubration,” says, that Napier, in his *History of the Peninsular War*, denounces a third rank as causing much confusion in the firings, and as quite murderous to the two ranks in its front. Now I have read the first, second and third volumes of this work, in a French translation, with many notes and corrections by Dumas, and do not see in them, and have seen no where else, any such denunciation. Napier censures Napoleon's too great partiality for attacks in column, to which he attributes disadvantages somewhat like those mentioned by Clairfait; but a column is not a line.

Firing, in three ranks, is executed in one of two ways: 1. The front rank kneels, and may, therefore, be considered absent at the moment that the other two fire. 2. The front and centre ranks only fire, and the rear rank might be considered as now absent, in its turn, but for the assistance it renders by loading, and then exchanging pieces with the centre rank.

It is true that *uninstructed* troops, in three ranks, are liable to create much confusion and to commit many fatal blunders; and so are the same kind of levies formed two deep, and to the same extent. The only remedy is, that suggested above—keep both regulars and militia out of battle till they shall at least be a little instructed. But it is time to return to the Report of the French Commission.

“The formation of ranks prescribed by the ordinance of 1791 is unfavorable to the fire of two ranks, [or by file, that principally used in battle.] * * * The Commission, to avoid that inconvenience, has established, [the following]: the three tallest men form the first file, the three next in height the second file, and so on to the left, [of the company,] which is closed with the three shortest men.”

This mode of forming companies, followed in the new American book, is objected to by Clairfait, because, when the battalion is drawn up in line of battle, the line of heads will resemble the teeth of a saw—the left flank of the right company, consisting of its shortest men, being in contact with the right flank of the next, consist-

ing of its tallest, and so on, at the junction of every two companies, towards the left. And who cares for this *appearance*, if important advantages are obtained by the formation? The principal of these will be found in the firings and the charge of the bayonet. Each file, consisting of men nearly of the same height, both lead and steel may be used with greater ease and effect. And with a view to the same objects a slight change from the French book is made, so as to form the company (from one rank) by a movement to the left instead of the right. In this way, the little difference in height, in the same file, is always in favor of the man in the second rank over the front rank man, and the same between the rear and centre ranks, in the case of three. Another reason for having the men of the same file as nearly of the same height as practicable, is this: In the school of the battalion and evolutions of the line, all movements may be made with the first or third rank, leading, indifferently.

Clairfait objects, also, to the formation of the company by a movement to the left; because it throws any broken file on the right. Refer to Nos. 425 and 437, of the book, for shifting corporals, (not to mention No. 439,) and the objection vanishes.

In connexion with this part of the subject, Clairfait cannot, for the soul of him, find out why the ranks are placed just thirteen inches—no more, no less, from each other! The fool in Lear profoundly remarks—"The reason why the seven stars are not more than seven, is a pretty reason:" an enigma which, probably, but for the reply annexed in the play, our critic never would have solved. Now they (the ranks, and *not* the stars) would, no doubt, have been brought into contact with each other, but for the absolute necessity of leaving sufficient space for the use of "those vile things, called guns," which some vile person invented and brought into use, not only to destroy, but, it seems, to puzzle "many a tall fellow," whose life and brains might otherwise have been preserved from harm.

A plainer statement of the whole matter, is this: The French, upon the experience of more than fifty years, had perfectly satisfied themselves that *un pied* was a sufficient interval to allow a rear rank the free use of their firelocks, and as (for other reasons) it was important not to increase that distance beyond the absolute necessity of the case, the translator, who perhaps has a contempt for the decimals of an inch, boldly rendered the two words into *thirteen inches* American.

Another cavil of Clairfait: He thinks that distances, between ranks, should be measured from heel to heel; but as it is a most awkward thing to compel men in the ranks to stoop down to find that part of their own feet, the American book has followed the French, and takes distances from breasts to knapsacks.

HINDMAN.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS, IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

IN SENATE

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1836.

The CHAIR communicated a report from the Navy Department, containing, in compliance with the provisions of the act of the 3d of March, 1809, an abstract of Expenditures, under the contingent head of said Department for the last year.

Mr. LEIGH presented the petition of the representatives of the late Commodore Thompson, praying for certain allowances in his accounts, which were disallowed him at the Navy Department; also praying compensation for certain diplomatic services rendered by the deceased. Referred; the first prayer of the memorial to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and the second prayer to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

TUESDAY, JAN. 5.

Mr. RUGGLES submitted the following resolution, which was considered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to communicate to the Senate, the survey and plan of West Thomaston harbor, in Maine, together with the estimated expense of contemplated improvements therein, made pursuant to a resolution of the last Congress.

WEDNESDAY, January 6.

Mr. BENTON presented a communication from Col. Bankhead, Captain Washington and Lieut. Vinton, a committee in behalf of sundry officers of the army, containing two projects for the equalization of the pay of the Army and Navy of the United States.

On motion of Mr. BENTON, it was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

THURSDAY, Jan. 7.

The bill from the House, making appropriations for repressing hostilities, commenced by the Seminoles, was read twice and referred.

MONDAY, Jan. 11.

The CHAIR announced communication from the War Department, covering a report from the Second Auditor on the contingent expenses of the military establishment for the last year.

Mr. WEBSTER, from the Committee on Finance, to which had been referred the bill making appropriations to suppress hostilities commenced by the Seminoles, reported the same with an amendment, which was read, and the bill was, by general consent, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. BENTON submitted the following resolution, which lies on the table one day:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause the Senate to be informed—

1. The probable amount that would be necessary for fortifying the lake, maritime, and gulf frontier of the United States, and such points of the land frontier as may require permanent fortifications.

2. The probable amount that would be necessary to construct an adequate number of armories and arsenals in the United States, and to supply the States with field artillery, especially brass fieldpieces, for their militia, and with side arms and pistols for their cavalry.

3. The probable amount that would be necessary to supply the United States with the ordnance, arms, and munitions of war, which proper regard to self-defence would require to be always on hand.

4. The probable amount that would be necessary to place the naval defences of the United States (including the increase of the navy yards, dock yards, and steam or floating batteries) upon the footing of strength and respectability which is due to the security and to the welfare of the Union.

Mr. SOUTHARD submitted the following resolutions, which lie on the table one day.

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to communicate to the Senate the report of the Engineers on the subject of deepening the bar at Pensacola bay, with the opinion of the Department as to its utility and practicability.

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for deepening the bar at the entrance to Pensacola bay, so as to admit vessels of war of the largest class—and further to inquire into the expediency of constructing a dry dock or marine railway for the repair of vessels of war at the navy yard at Pensacola.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1836.

Mr. CANBRELENG, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported the following bill, which was read twice, and committed:

A bill making appropriations for the current expenses of the Indian Department, and for Indian annuities and other similar objects for 1836.

Mr. PARKER, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bills, which were read twice and committed:

A bill concerning pensions payable out of the Navy Pension Fund; and

A bill for the relief of Samuel W. Ruff.

Mr. WISE, from the Select Committee raised on the subject, reported a bill to carry into effect a resolution of the Congress of 1787, to erect a marble column at Yorktown, in Virginia; which was read twice and committed.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communications:

A report from the Secretary of the Navy, in pursuance of the act of the 3d March, 1809, embracing an abstract of expenditures under the contingent head of said Department, which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Secretary of War, in relation to the condition of ordnance and ordnance stores—laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMSON, of Ohio, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to authorize a compromise and to secure to the United States the title to Pea Patch Island, in the State of Delaware; which was read twice and committed.

Mr. R. M. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to authorize the Quartermaster General to employ additional clerks and a messenger in his office; which was read twice and committed.

The following bills from the Senate were read twice and committed:

A bill for the relief of Henry B. Tyler, executor of Col. Richard Smith;

A bill to extend two patents to James Barron.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6.

Mr. SUTHERLAND, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill making an appropriation for the erection of a Marine Hospital in the city of Baltimore, which was read twice and committed.

Mr. PEARCE, of Rhode Island from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill making an appropriation for a Marine Hospital at Portland, in the State of Maine, which was read twice and committed.

Mr. WARD, from the Committee on Military Affairs, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of sundry citizens of the town of Coventry, in the State of Connecticut, praying for erection of a monument to the memory of Captain LATHAN HALE, of the revolutionary army. Mr. W. stated that the committee were of opinion that they possessed no jurisdiction of the matter referred.

Mr. JUDSON moved that the petition of the citizens of Coventry be committed to a select committee, and in support of that motion proceeded to remark, that this petition came from nearly five hundred of his fellow-citizens, who were honest in purpose and respectable in character; it had been heretofore referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and that Committee had come to the result, that the subject of the memorial did not necessarily fall within their jurisdiction. The motion was now made to refer the memorial to a select committee, upon the idea that there was no standing committee organized by the House, to whom the same could be appropriately referred.

It was indeed matter of surprise, that to a request so reasonable, there should be one objection heard: when the question should be understood, he was sure that all such objections would be withdrawn.

Capt. NATHAN HALE, of the State of Connecticut, a brave young man, stimulated by his ardent patriotism, entered the army, and was entrusted with a Captain's Commission, and during that glorious struggle, General Washington requested the service of some officer to ascertain the condition of the invading army, when the movements of that army were essential to the existence of the American Army. No officer could be found to perform this delicate and hazardous service, until CAPTAIN HALE became a volunteer, and in that service he died a martyr in the cause.

No notice had ever been taken of that event by the Government. It was due to the honor of the Nation, that it should now be done, and this was the object of the reference moved. This was not without precedent. Congress had ordered a monument to be erected over the remains of the lamented General Brown, at the expense of the United States. Every American approved the course, and it might now be asked, was not this a case of equal moment?

Should the reference be made, it would be competent for the Committee to report on the specific prayer, or they might report that suitable measures be taken to remove to the sepulture of his Fathers, the remains of Captain Hale—or to extend to his heirs at law, the benefits of the resolution of 1780.

The house should not be now detained further on the mere question of reference, but when the Committee should have reported, it should then be his business, to show to his House, that these petitions must not be sent away unheard.

The following resolution, heretofore offered by Mr. MASON, of Ohio, was considered and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be instructed to communicate to the House of Representatives, the report of the survey and examination made pursuant to an act of Congress, approved March 3d, 1835, by Captain Canfield, under the direction of the War Department, of the line of the National road between Springfield, in the State of Ohio, and Richmond, in the State of Indiana; and that he further report whether the President of the United States has approved or disapproved of the same.

The CHAIR laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting 275 copies of the Navy Register for the year 1836,—laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

On motion of Mr. CAMBRELENG, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. CONNOR in the Chair.

On motion of Mr. CAMBRELENG, the Committee proceeded to consider the following bill:

A bill making appropriation for repressing hostilities commenced by the Seminole Indians.

Be it enacted, &c., That the sum of \$80,000 be and the same is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the expenses attending the repression of hostilities, commenced by the Seminole Indians in Florida.

A communication from the Secretary of War on the subject was read, when

Mr. CAMBRELENG briefly adverted to the depredations committed by the Seminoles—their having laid waste and desolated the country for eighty miles, &c.

Mr. VINTON inquired whether the gentleman from New York was in possession of any information as to the cause of this war, or who commenced it?

Mr. CAMBRELENG said he had in his possession a package of documents containing the desired information. The disturbance had grown out of a treaty with the Seminoles, the execution of which had been postponed, from time to time, by them, and when a portion of these Indians had determined to remove, two of their own chiefs had been murdered by themselves, &c. The gentleman from Ohio could examine the correspondence in his possession, and he would be able to satisfy himself on the subject.

Mr. VINTON inquired when the treaty alluded to was made? He did not wish to delay the passage of the bill, but if it was the treaty of 1823, or 1824, it was his intention to move to amend it by making it obligatory on the United States to carry that treaty into effect.

Mr. CAMBRELENG adverted to the necessity of speedy action upon this subject. The war was progressing. Fifteen hundred Indians were in the field, and they were opposed by only about two hundred troops. Unless speedily repressed, they would probably make inroads upon the State of Georgia. If the gentleman from Ohio desired to raise a question or a debate upon the treaty, he could select another opportunity, without embarrassing the present measure.

Mr. ADAMS moved to amend the bill by providing that the sum appropriated should be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, conformably to law. The bill he considered rather indefinite in its terms. The appropriation in this bill was the same in principle with that of the \$3,000,000 appropriation of the last session. He would inquire by whom was this appropriation to be expended? Was it for the purpose of raising an army?—Congress alone had this power. Was it intended to confer upon the President a power which the constitution had reserved exclusively to Congress? If that was the intention of the present bill, he should be constrained reluctantly to vote against it. He adverted to the fortification bill of the last session, in which was contained an appropriation of 3,000,000 dollars. He had voted for that bill upon the principle which has always prevailed and about which there was no doubt, that however indefinite might be its terms, there was no authority to expend a single dollar of it unless in pursuance of law. The Senate had objected to the appropriation upon the ground, as he understood, that it had placed at the discretion of the President \$3,000,000 without prescribing by law the manner in which it should be expended. A Committee of Conference had been appointed—a compromise was agreed upon—the appropriation was reduced and its terms were not so indefinite, thereby strengthening the belief that the objection of the Senate was that which he had stated, and that there was some plausibility in it, from the more definite shape agreed upon by the Committee of Conference. That committee had reported, but it was too late, and this appropriation had not only failed, but the whole bill was lost. He believed that the appropriation was an extremely proper one at that time, and the whole country was now suffering in consequence of the failure of the entire bill.

In conclusion, he trusted that the amendment which he had submitted would be adopted.

Mr. CAMBRELENG briefly replied to some of the remarks of the gentleman from Massachusetts. He had no objection to the amendment which had been proposed.

Mr. EVERETT made a few remarks which were wholly inaudible.

The amendment was then agreed to, and the bill laid aside.

The committee then rose and reported to the House the bill making partial appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1836, and the bill making appropriation for repressing hostilities on the part of the Seminole Indians.

The amendment to the latter bill was concurred in, and the two bills were ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7.

On motion of Mr. WHITE, of Florida,

The House took up the bill making appropriations for repressing hostilities commenced by the Seminole Indians, which was read the third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. TOLCEY, it was

Resolved, That the report of the Secretary of War on the claims of the State of Connecticut for services of militia and disbursements, made during the late war with Great Britain, made in obedience to the order of the House of Representatives of the 6th January, 1832, and the letter of the Secretary transmitting the same, be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to inquire whether any and what further legislation may be necessary for the adjustment and settlement of said claims.

Mr. HAWES submitted the following resolution, which was postponed till to-morrow.

Resolved, That a select committee of nine be appointed to inquire what amendments, if any, are expedient to be made to the laws relating to the Military Academy at West Point, in the State of New York, and also, in the expediency of modifying the organization of said institution, and also, whether it would not comport with the public interest, to abolish the same, with power to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Michigan,

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi river, from the mouth of the Des Moines river, in the Territory of Michigan, to Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, in said Territory. And that the same committee be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of making appropriation in money and in land for the opening and constructing of a McAdamsed or other road from the Mississippi river, through the United States Lead Mines, in Ioway county, Michigan Territory, to Milwaukee Bay, on Lake Michigan.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Michigan,

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of erecting light houses on suitable sites at the mouth of Detroit river of Lake Erie, at the mouth of Saginaw river of Lake Huron, at Wagon-shance, or Fox Point, on the Straits of Michillimackinack, and at the mouths of the Grand Kalamazoo and Milwaukee rivers of Lake Michigan.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Michigan,

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making appropriations to improve the harbors at the mouths of St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, and Milwaukee rivers of Lake Michigan, and for removing the bar at the mouth of Clinton river of Lake St. Clair, in Michigan.

On motion of Mr. WHITE, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of constructing a dry dock at or near the Navy Yard at Pensacola, Florida, and of deepening the Bar as recommended in the report of Captain Chase of the Engineer Department, so as to admit the passage of vessels of war of the largest class.

On motion of Mr. JONES, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing an act to authorize a survey and making an appropriation for the construction of a military road from Fort Gratiot by the seat of justice of the county of Lapar to the Rapids of the Grand River in Michigan, and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

MONDAY, Jan. 11.

Mr. GIDEON LEE said it was well known to every member of the House that the works on the fortifications had been stopped during the last year for want of appropriations to carry them on. It was also known that early appropriations were necessary for the support of our army and navy. The committee of Ways and Means have laid on the table bills appropriating moneys for those purposes, which may

be taken up at any time. He would, therefore, suggest to the Chairman of that Committee the propriety of taking up these bills as early as possible.

Mr. CAMBRELENG said he rose at the same moment his colleague did, to announce to the House, under instructions from the Committee of Ways and Means, that he should with permission of the House, call up the bills making appropriations for the army and navy, to-morrow, at one o'clock. The committee would have called up these bills to day, but some further communications were expected from the Departments.

As regarded the other bill about which his colleague had inquired, Mr. C. hoped the presentation of petitions would not take up the whole day; and if it did not, the bill, in its present shape, would not, he was quite sure, encounter much opposition, and if there was time, he should call it up to day, and he trusted it would be passed.

Mr. LEE, of New York, said he was perfectly satisfied. He only wished to call the attention of the House to matters of more importance than any other before it.

Mr. JARVIS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, asked the consent of the House to present a resolution.

Objection being made, Mr. JARVIS moved to suspend the rule, which was agreed to.

Mr. JARVIS then submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the naval force in commission.

The resolution was discussed by Messrs. WISE, JARVIS, GLASCOCK, HAMMOND, HAWES, McKEON, REED, MILLER, GRENELL, EVERETT, LANE, and PEARCE of R. I., and adopted—Yeas 166—Nays 18.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12.

Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following bills, which were committed to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union; and, together with the reports and documents accompanying the same, ordered to be printed:

A bill making an appropriation for collecting materials preparatory to the commencement of certain fortifications;

A bill for the better organization of the corps of Topographical Engineers; and

A bill authorizing the Chief Engineer to employ clerks and a messenger.

Mr. JOHNSON gave notice that he would call up the first named bill on Thursday next.

Mr. PARKER, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to establish rations for the Navy, which was read twice and committed.

Mr. INGERSOLL, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the Military Academy of the United States for the year 1836.

On motion of Mr. PINCKNEY,

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Naval Depot in Charleston Harbor.

On motion of Mr. PEARCE, of Rhode Island,

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to communicate to this House the survey and estimate of Lieutenant T. S. Brown, of the Corps of Engineers, of the work proposed to be constructed at the eastern termination of Lake Erie, for the protection of the commerce on the lakes.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a report of the Second Auditor on the contingent expenses of the Military Academy for 1835—laid on the table and ordered to printed.

THE ARMY.

Jan. 6.—1st. Lieut. J. R. Irwin relieved from duty in the Engineer Department, and ordered to join his company.

Jan. 8.—Lieut. S. Burbank, 1st. Infy., assigned to duty at the Military Academy.

Jan. 9.—Lt. Col. J. Bankhead, 3d Arty., ordered to proceed to Fort King and report to Brig. Gen. Clinch, for field duty with the troops serving in Florida.

Jan. 11.—Bvt. Capt. A. Lowd, 2d Arty., assigned to duty in the Ordnance Department.

Bvt. Capt. C. Ward, 4th Arty., will be relieved on the 1st March from duty in the Ordnance Department, when he will join his company.

NAVY.

Passed Ass't. Surgeon Geo. Blacknall has been relieved from duty at the Naval Hospital near Norfolk, Va., and Ass't. Surgeon J. C. Mercer ordered to supply his place.

Purser T. Winn relieved from duty at the Navy Yard, Washington, at his own request, on account of ill health, and Purser G. C. Cooper ordered to supply his place.

RESIGNATION.

Mid. J. G. Stanly, 11 Jan. 1836.

MARRIAGE.

On the 30th ult., at Berea, Prince William county Va., Lieut. JAMES S. DAVIS, of the 4th Arty. U. S. Army, to Miss FRANCES A. T. daughter of the late Dr. BERKELEY, of Frederick County, Va.

DEATHS.

In Washington, on the 7th inst., Captain JOSEPH L. KUHN, aged 43 years, formerly Paymaster of the Marine Corps.

On the 13th inst., Captain RICHARD BACHE, of the Ordnance Corps, Commandant of the U. S. Arsenal at Greenleaf's Point.

Seldom have we to commit to the pages of obituary a name more endearing than that of Lieut. AUGUSTINE F. SEATON, 7th Regiment U. S. Infantry, who departed this life at Fort Gibson on the morning of Friday November 20th, in the twenty-sixth year of his age.

"When o'er the buds of youth the death-wind blows
And blights the fairest, when our bitt'rest tears
Stream as the eyes of those who love us close,
We think on what they were with many fears,
Lest goodness die with them and leave the coming years."

Thus has perished amongst us the young—the beautiful—the brave, ere his buds of hope had blossomed, and the fruits of his intellectual toil ripened to maturity.

Lieut. SEATON obtained the germs of the affection from which he died, during the last summer, whilst in the discharge of his duty in a most arduous service. About the middle of June he was sent in command of a detachment to provision the Dragoons, then 180 miles S. West from Fort Gibson; and at the same time to make a road to their camp. The weather during the greater part of the Expedition was rainy, and the streams in consequence so much up that the whole command might be said to have had scarcely a dry garment for nearly a month. It was detained eleven days on the left bank of Little River, on a ridge, not more than one hundred yards by fifty, completely surrounded by water. Here numbers fell sick, and among them the lamented object of our notice. On his return to Fort Gibson, our friend, yet scarcely convalescent from fever, was again detailed for duty on the Prairies. After an effort to accompany the forces he found himself unable and obtained leave to return. The bow had been sprung, and the barb of Death was now rankling in his vitals! If for a moment Health would greet him with her roseate smile, it would be but transitory—the wretchedness of the quarters and the insalubrity of Fort Gibson, precluded the possibility of his recovery. After suffering repeated attacks of disease he gradually faded away into the regions of eternal repose.

Farewell beloved one! The muffled drum has told the last that remained of mortality in AUGUSTINE F. SEATON. Beloved whilst living, thou hast been respected in death. Thy companions in arms mingle their sorrows with those of thy bereaved relatives—thy memory remains in their recollections; though thou art passed over the valley and shadow of death never to return. Beloved one, farewell!

M.

In Newburyport, Mass. JOHN THURSTON, M. D. aged 47, late of the army.

At the Marine Barracks, near Portsmouth, N. H., on the 30th ult., MARY QUINCY WATSON, of typhus fever, aged 12 years and 11 months, 3d daughter of Col. S. E. WATSON, U. S. Marine Corps.

At the Portsmouth Navy Yard, LEONARD, son of Lieut. J. R. JARVIS, of the navy.

At Morsen Cottage, the residence of his father, near Fredericksburg, Va., on the 23th ult., ROBERT, the eldest son of Lieutenant R. D. THORBURN, of the U. S. Navy, in the fifth year of his age.

At Fort Trumbull, New London, Conn., on the 28th ult., MARY ALEXANDER MORRIS, aged 15 months, daughter of Lt. W. W. MORRIS, U. S. A.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS AND PATRIOTS.

In Woburn, Mass. 8th ult. Mrs. DAVIS, aged 85. She dropped down and died instantly, while retiring to bed; and on the 11th ult. NATHANIEL DAVIS, her husband,

76, a revolutionary pensioner. On the 19th April, 1775, he resided at Concord, Mass. with his parents, and though a boy and forbidden by them, he stole away, with an old gun, and opposed the British at the North Bridge, and followed them towards Cambridge, and afterwards served several terms in the artillery in the revolutionary war.

In Gardiner, Me., Mr. HUGH COX, 76.

In Litchfield, Me., Captain SAMUEL ODIORNE, 78.

In Holliston, Mass., 14th Dec. DANIEL LELAND, 94.

In Lebanon, Me., Mr. GEORGE FALL, 82.

NOTICE.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Office of the Commissary General of Purchases, in Philadelphia, for making Army Clothing for the year 1836, as hereafter enumerated, viz—

Coats of all kinds for the several Regiments.

Woollen Jackets, with sleeves, for Artillery, Infantry, &c.

Woollen Overalls, for Art. Inf. and Dragoons, for sergeants and privates.

Cotton Jackets, with sleeves, for sergeants and privates.

Cotton Overalls for sergeants and privates.

Cotton and Flannel Shirts, for sergeants and privates.

Drawers of Canton Flannel, &c.

Great Coats, for Artillery, Infantry and Dragoons.

The Garments will be delivered at the United States Arsenal, near Philadelphia, cut out, with the necessary trimmings, and are to be returned there, when made up, for inspection.

Patterns of all the garments may be examined at the Commissary General's Office. On these pattern garments exhibited the contracts will be founded and inspections made, and no garment will be received and paid for that does not correspond in workmanship, and in every other respect, to the pattern on which a contract shall be founded. The garments are to be delivered in equal quantities monthly, and in equal proportions of sizes to be designated, and all contracts are to be fulfilled on or before the first day of July, 1836. Those who propose may offer for a given number of each garment. No advances will be made. Security will be required for the faithful fulfilment of contracts both as to time and workmanship, including the risk of injury to garments delivered.

The proposals must be in writing, sealed, and endorsed "*Proposals for Making Army Clothing*," and must be received at the Office of the Commissary General, on or before the first day of February, 1836:

Commissary General's Office,

Philadelphia, Dec. 26, 1835.

C. IRVINE,

Commissary General of Purchases:

Jan. 14—3t

E. OWEN,

MERCHANT TAILOR, near the Seven Buildings, and also a few doors west of Fuller's Hotel, WASHINGTON CITY.

Begs leave most respectfully to inform his NAVAL and MILITARY friends, and the PUBLIC in general, that he has just received a very large supply of fashionable WINTER GOODS, consisting of

WOOLLEN CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, &c.

Which for quality and lowness of prices, he feels confident, will be found to be equal to any in the United States.

E. O. would respectfully solicit the attention of gentlemen belonging to the ARMY AND NAVY, to his superior mode of fitting uniforms, which, for material and workmanship, cannot be surpassed by any house in the Union. He has constantly on hand a large assortment of articles, as used in the dress of both services, and which he is determined to sell at a lower rate than the same articles can be procured for, in any of the Atlantic cities. He has also just received a quantity of GREEN CLOTH, peculiarly adapted to the dress of the Marine Corps, (a very rare article,) to which he would invite the particular attention of such gentlemen, who belong to that corps, as it will be found to be a very superior article.

All orders received from distant parts of the country (containing a draft or suitable reference) will be as punctually attended to, as though the party ordering were present, and will be forwarded with the strictest care.

E. O. embraces the present opportunity, of tendering his sincere acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have already favored him with their commands, and humbly solicits a continuation of those favors, for which he will ever feel grateful.

Jan. 7—4f

he
gh a
un,
wed
eral

3.
94.

om-
for
nu-

ry,

ier-

tes.

Ar-
im-
for

om-
ex-
de,

not

to

gar-

and

on-

336.

ach

be

as

y to

sed

re

be-

s:

d

and

t he

IN-

&c.

onfi-

ates.

tle-

su-

and

the

at of

h he

icles

has

iarly

arti-

on of

l be

con

nally

sent,

g his

e al-

y so-

ever

tf